

BRISBANE TO SANDGATE BICYCLE RIDE

Cycling History began in Queensland with the arrival of a shipment of tricycles in Brisbane from England in the 1870's.

The first race reported to have taken place in Queensland, was between a cyclist on a tricycle and a Cobb & Co Coach, from Brisbane to Sandgate. Unfortunately the results were never recorded, because the Reporter forgot to file the result with the Editor of the newspaper of the time - The Moreton Bay Courier. The frame of the machine used in this race sat atop Reed's Locksmith shop in Adelaide Street, Brisbane for many years.

The (former) Queensland Vintage Cycle Club, organised a re-enactment of this first cycle race, for the Centenary of Cycling in Queensland on 13th June 1993. A replica tricycle, built and ridden by Brett Richardson, raced an original Cobb & Co and a team of five horses driven by Stephen Ralph of the Teamsters Hall of Fame at the Glasshouse Mountains. The course for this race was from the Sandgate Post Office, to the Southbank Parklands in Brisbane. The tricycle completed the course in approximately 1 hour 34 minutes, and the coach arrived at the finish just 5 minutes behind the tricycle - But the coach had a problem along the way - it was booked by a Police Officer in Ann Street Fortitude Valley for being on an intersection when the traffic lights turned red! Had this not happened- who knows - the coach may have beaten the tricycle to the finish line.

Leap forward to 2013, and a couple of members of the current Queensland Penny Farthing and Historical Cycle Club propose to ride from Brisbane Town Hall to Sandgate Town Hall on Penny Farthings, on Saturday 23rd November.

